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SUBJECT: OMAN CONFIRMS DATE FOR GSD TALKS

- 11. (SBU) The office of Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) Under Secretary Sayyid Badr al-Busaidi has confirmed that the Under Secretary will be available to conduct the next round of Gulf Security Dialogue (GSD) talks in Washington, D.C. the morning of June 18. Sayyid Badr has requested that he be allowed to present an overview of Oman's policy goals and security situation at the beginning of the talks. He has further asked that the U.S. provide an agenda and read-ahead briefing materials as soon as possible so that the Omani government can timely determine what other officials should be included in its GSD delegation.
- 12. (SBU) Comment: Sayyid Badr was the principal Omani interlocutor for the first round of GSD talks in Muscat on October 17, 2006 (ref C). He also received Acting ASD Mary Beth Long during this year's U.S.-Oman Joint Military Commission (ref B). Given the importance of the read-ahead information, post seeks to directly participate in the drafting of briefing documents for the GSD. End Comment. GRAPPO